



**Town of Southern Shores**  
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Resolution 2008-11-05

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING POST-LABOR DAY SCHOOL START**

**WHEREAS**, tourism is a major component of the North Carolina economy, particularly in resort areas such as the mountain and coastal regions, including Dare County's Outer Banks; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual school start date in North Carolina has a significant economic impact on tourism; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual school year historically began after the Labor Day holiday, thereby providing quality family time for summer vacations throughout the warmest months of July and August; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 92% of North Carolina school systems now start the annual school year between July 30 and August 12, thus eliminating most if not all of the month of August for family travel plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of North Carolina school systems implementing earlier start dates continues to increase, and

**WHEREAS**, the month of August is a more economically critical month of the summer tourism season than the late May and early June time periods that are available with an earlier school start date and end; and

**WHEREAS**, the timing of the annual school start date also has a direct impact upon the ability of employers to hire high school students and school teachers for summer employment; and

**WHEREAS**, Dare County Tourism Board supports SOS North Carolina, a volunteer coalition of parents, grandparents, education professionals, and others seeking to restore a more traditional school calendar for elementary and secondary schools, is actively engaged in a campaign to encourage the Governor and the North Carolina General Assembly to enact legislation requiring local school systems to schedule the first day of classes no earlier than the Tuesday following Labor Day; and

**WHEREAS**, Dare County Tourism Board advocates only a change in the annual school calendar dates, and not a reduction in the number of instructional days; and

**WHEREAS**, many other states competing for tourism business on the eastern seaboard of the United States start the annual school year after Labor Day,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Southern Shores Town Council hereby supports the enactment of statewide legislation requiring local school systems to schedule the first day of classes no earlier than the Tuesday following Labor Day, and encourages the Governor and General Assembly to enact such legislation.

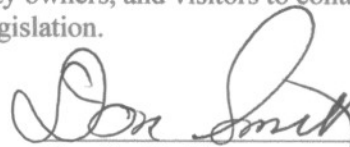
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Southern Shores Town Council supports the efforts of SOS North Carolina, and encourages all Dare County and North Carolina residents, property owners, and visitors to contact their representatives in the North Carolina General Assembly to indicate support for such legislation.

Adopted this 25<sup>th</sup> day November, 2008.

SEAL

ATTEST:

Carrie Gordin, Town Clerk

  
Don Smith, Mayor